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31st July '43

3rd August '43

1. Peruvian Reaction To Henry Wallace's Visit  
2. Coup D'Etat Anticipated Shortly In Peru

The writer, Stanley Ross reports an interview with Haya de la Torre founder of the Party A.P.R.A. (Alianza Popular Revolucionaria Americana) in Peru. The following extracts are of interest:-

"The Apristas enjoyed Henry Wallace's visit to Peru and considered his speeches a signal victory for them. Haya told me his people did not stage an anti-government demonstration for fear it might be misconstrued as anti-Wallace. However, when Dr. Prado greeted Wallace on the palace balcony, Wallace got huge cheers and Prado's speech was drowned by whistles and cat-calls.

'Wallace left a profound impression here,' Haya de la Torre said. 'No one has done so much for friendship among the American people as he, not even Roosevelt. He is the first man who came here and spoke from the heart.'

Current rumours in Peru hold that Marshal Benavides, now minister to the Argentine, will return to power shortly. Although Benavides was Apra's bitter enemy, it is now thought that his attitude towards Apra, and Apra's attitude towards him have somewhat changed; that they would be strange if willing bedfellows. Neither Haya de la Torre nor Benavides confirmed this; it is just a feeling this correspondent has after talking with both of them. The story of an impending military coup in Peru I not only heard from Haya de la Torre, but from a prominent Peruvian official, from a Latin American diplomat and from a Peruvian writer often accused of being one of Lima's Nazi-sympathisers.

J.D.A./A.C.  
31st July '43.

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